

Setting up National Centres for disabled

1308. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under active consideration of Union Government to set up National Centres for blinds, deaf, partially deaf and model school for mentally retarded children in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor, as Uttar Pradesh being the most populated State in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) No proposal is under consideration to set up National Centres for the blinds deaf, partially deaf, and model school for mentally retarded children in Uttar Pradesh. However, it has been decided to shift the Model Special Education Centre (MSEC), formerly known as Model School for Mentally Deficient Children (MSMDC) from Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi to New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA), Uttar Pradesh.

A Composite Regional Centre (CRC) has already been set up at Lucknow which provides educational, vocational training and rehabilitation services to the disabled persons.

Census of OBCs

1309. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to carry out a census of OBCs in the country;

(b) if so, what are the motives of Government to have cast-based census specially for OBCs;

(c) whether census for other castes is also being proposed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The State Governments/ Union Territories Administrations have been requested to determine the number of OBCs and those amongst them living below the poverty line.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) To uplift the socio-economic conditions of OBCs, data on OBC would be useful in formulating schemes for their welfare.

Status of proposals for welfare of older persons

1310. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from various State Governments for the welfare of older persons during the last two years;

(b) the funds allocated and released for these welfare schemes to the State Government during the said period; and

(c) the number of new Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Mobile Medicare Units to be opened during the current year, State-wise, particularly in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):

(a) During 2004-05, 222 proposals and during 2005-06, 64 proposals of Non Government Organisations were received.

(b) There is no allocation for the States/Union Territories under the Scheme.

(c) There is no target.

Tribals below poverty line

†1311. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tribals in the country and State-wise details of the people among them living below the poverty line;

(b) the details of the programmes introduced by Government for tribals and the measures taken by Government to provide its information to the tribals in this regard;

(c) the degree of benefits, the tribals are getting from the schemes/programmes formulated by Government for them; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.